

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 INR-07

L-02 ACDA-05 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06

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SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLOSACLANT

USDOCOSOUTH

USNMR SHAPE

USCINCEUR

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BRUSSLES

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

ZEN LUXWMOBURG

AMEMBASSY AMDRID

MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1972

E.O. 11652: GDS

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TAGS: PFOR, MILI, NATO, OR, XF, XG, XI, NAC

SUBJECT: NATO STUDY ON IMPLICATIONS OF REOPENING SUEZ CANAL

REF: A. STATE 079939

B. USNATO 1830

SUMMARY. SUBJECT STUDY, AVAILABLE IN NATO REGISTRIES AS C-M(75)12, WAS CONSIDERED BY THE NAC ON APRIL 9, AND WITH SLIGHT MODIFICATIONS APPROVED FOR FORWARDING TO MINISTERS. COUNCIL ALSO AGREED DOCUMENT SHOULD BE REFERRED TO DPC OR ONE OF ITS SUBCOMMITTEES FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE DEFENSE PLANNING IMPLICATIONS OF THE REPORT'S CONCLUSIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. SYG LUNS INTRODUCED THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE'S REPORT ON IMPLICATIONS OF SUEZ REOPENING AS REPRESENTING THE ALLIANCE'S FIRST ANALYSIS OF A SITUATION OUTSIDE THE NATO TREATY AREA TO TAKE PLACE IN THE SPIRIT OF PARAGRAPH 11 OF THE OTTAWA DECLARATION. HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED THAT THE SUEZ STUDY DRAFTING SESSIONS AND THE DEBATES IN THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE HAD TAKEN PLACE IN A VERY CONSTRUCTIVE AND COOPERATIVE SPIRIT. LUNS SAID THIS AUGURS WELL FOR STUDIES OF A SIMILAR NATURE WHICH THE COUNCIL MIGHT DECIDE TO UNDERTAKE IN THE FUTURE.

2. THE SUEZ STUDY DOCUMENT RECEIVED GENERAL PRAISE FROM A NUMBER OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES. AMABASSADOR BRUCE SAID U.S. AUTHORITIES CONSIDER THE REPORT TO BE A USEFUL ANALYSIS OF THIS ISSUE, AND HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE SUGGESTION THAT IT BE SUBMITTED TO MINISTERS FOR THEIR INFORMATION, PERHAPS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE SEMIANNUAL MEDIATERRANEAN REPORT. BRUCE ALSO SUGGESTED A MINOR AMENDMENT OF THE REPORT TO REFLECT PRESIDENT SADAT'S RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT THAT THE SUEZ CANAL WILL BE REOPENED ON JUNE 5. ADDITIONALLY, THE U.S. AMBASSADOR SUGGESTED THE DOCUMENT MIGHT BE CONSIDERED ALSO BY THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE OR ONE OF ITS SUBSIDIARY BODIES FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF MILITARY IMPLICATIONS FOR ALLIANCE DEFENSE PLANNING IN THE AREAS CONCERNED.

3. CATALANO (ITALY) ALSO SUGGESTED MINOR AMENDMENT TO PARA 2(B) OF THE REPORT, AND MENZIES (CANADA) REQUESTED ADDITIONAL PRECISION ABOUT WHAT PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL SOVIET MERCHANT SHIPPING MIGHT BE PREDICTED TO USE THE CANAL.

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4. IN HIS SUMMATION, LUNS PRAISED THE COMMITTEE AND ITS CHAIRMAN FOR EXCELLENT WORK, REMANDED THE DOCUMENT TO POLADS FOR INCORPORATION OF THE COUNCIL'S AMENDMENTS, AND INDICATED HE WOULD REFER THE STUDY TO THE DPC FOR PARTICULAR EXAMINATION OF THE QUESTIONS RAISED IN PARA 39 OF THE REPORT.

5. MISSION WILL POUCH COPIES OF AMENDED FINAL REPORT TO ADDRESSEES WHICH DO NOT HAVE NATO SUBREGISTRIES.

6. COMMENT: AS MISSION HAS INDICATED, RESULTS OF THIS STUDY ARE PERHAPS NOT AS IMPORTANT AS THE FACT THAT IT REPRESENTS A SUCCESSFUL CONSULTATION AMONG THE FIFTEEN ON A SITUATION OUTSIDE THE NATO TREATY AREA; AND, AS SUCH, IT AUGURS WELL FOR THE

FUTURE OF ALLIANCE CONSULTATIONS.

BRUCE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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To: STATE
SECDEF INFO BONN
LONDON
PARIS
ROME
MOSCOW

USLOSACLT
USDOCOSOUTH
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR
ANKARA
ATHENS
BRUSSLES
CAIRO
COPENHAGEN
THE HAGUE
LISBON
ZEN LUXWMBOURG
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OSLO
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